GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICES

INTRASERVICE MEMORANDUM AND ENDORSEMENT

PAGE ____ OF ____ PAGES

SUBJECT OR TRANSACTION: Weisberg Correspondence.

FROM	TO	DATE AND MESSAGE
NND Johnson	NND	4/3/70. Attached are drafts of a memorandum to L and a reply to four letters from Harold Weisberg.
		I think it is time that we tried to reduce the amount of correspondence with Weisberg by restricting our replies to the bare minimum necessary to furnish records to him under the "Freedom of Information Act." We have had enough experience with him to know that prompt replies to his letters, or informative replies of any kind, only multiply the number of letters and questions from him that have to be answered. It is fearful to think of the number of letters we would have received from him if it had not been for the delays in replying to him. Our two latest letters to him have already spawned six letters from him in reply, and the end is not yet in sight. This was not caused by delay in replying to him but is normal Weisberg procedure.
		As a matter of fairness to other researchers, I think we should furnish no information to him in the future except what is absolutely necessary to furnish him copies of documents under the "Freedom of Information Act." This course is further justified by the fact that he wilfully complicates the correspondence by such statements as those that we informed the press in February 1967 that we had a total of 40 pages of material relating to David W. Ferrie (I did not make such a statement, and I'm sure no one else would have made it); that we furnished him photographs (one of which we actually furnished to Dr. Nichols rather than to Weisberg) and a list of Ferrie material which we did not furnish him; and that he had previously made requests

(Over)

FROM	TO	DATE AND MESSAGE (Continuation)
MJ	NND	which he did not make. He strings out his questions in this way and increases the amount of time necessary to furnish him information. I see no reason why we should cooperate with him in this cat-and-mouse game.
		I talked to Bob Yock about this the other day, and he is in favor of the general idea. He called me to say that he thinks the "memorandum of transfer" will probably have to be made available for research and is transmitting his view to Mr. Harding.
		Marion M. Johnson
		Marion M. Johnson
		Legislative, Judicial and
		Diplomatic Records Division
NND	NN	4/7/70. Mr. Johnson and I have often discussed the inordinate amount of time required to handle the Weisberg requests. Since we have the Warren Commission records in our custody, however, we can't completely ignore his requests the way other agencies do. As you know I have asked Johnson to break in Charles South so that we can have someone else available to assist him on some of the more difficult replies. Simmons of course assists on most of the reproduction requests and will continue to do so.
		Because our correspondence with Weisberg has become so extensive and confusing over the years, I agree with Mr. Johnson that we should restrict our replies as much as possible. It seems to me that the questions in some of his letters are reaching a point where they are no longer understandable.
		Mark G. Eckhoff
		Mark G. Eckhoff, Director
		Legislative, Judicial and Diplomatic Records Division

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FURTHER CONTINUATION - If a series of messages on one subject requires more than one page, front and back, continue it on additional sheets, consecutively numbered. Arrange all such sheets with page one on top and staple them together. Begin a new series for messages written after a different type of document is added to the dossier.

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